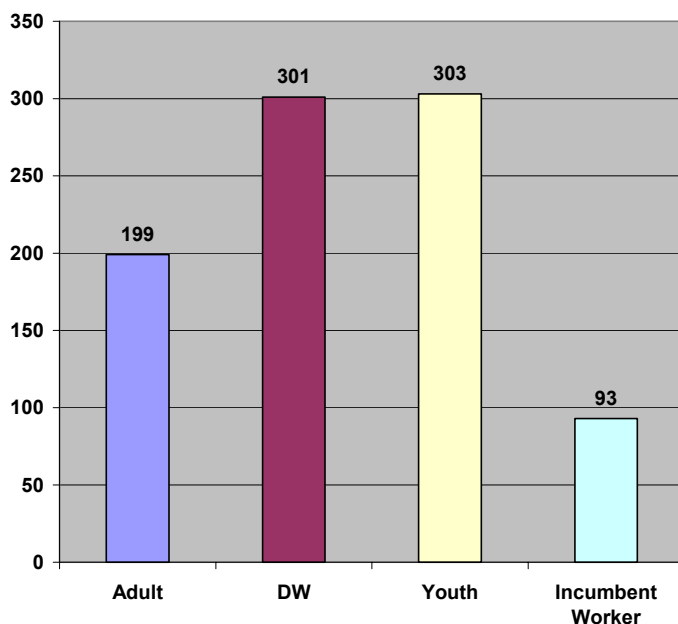




WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT NEWS

PROGRAM STATISTICS

As of May 11, 2004, there are 873 participants being served in WIA programs. These include 199 in the adult worker program, 301 in the displaced workers program, 93 in the incumbent worker program, and 303 in the youth program (51 older youth (19-21), and 252 younger youth (14-18)).



(Note: Program totals do not equal total WIA enrollment because some participants are enrolled in more than one program.)

See page 5 for detailed program information

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

The unemployment rate for Durham County in February and March was 4.4% and 3.7% respectively. This represents a .7% decrease in the unemployment rate between February and March, meaning that 978 people gained employment.

Civilian Labor Force Estimates for Durham County				
	2003		2004	
	Feb	Mar	Feb	Mar
Labor Force	126,497	126,778	127,888	128,177
Employed	119,478	120,011	122,230	123,497
Unemployed	7,019	6,767	5,658	4,680
Rate %	5.5%	5.3%	4.4%	3.7%
Source: NC Employment Security Commission				

EMPLOYMENT SECURITY COMMISSION WIA PROGRAM UPDATE

As the Employment Security Commission nears the end of their present contract, which was dedicated to the placement of WIA adult and dislocated workers, they are pleased to report the following statistics:

Of the roughly 430 receiving services at the contract start date, 143 have entered employment, to date. As of April 30, 2004,

151 remain in training while 41 have completed training and are in job search status. Of the remaining 95, 17 have exited the program due to administrative or health reasons; and the remaining 78 have completed training in the previous program year and are currently in job search or awaiting placement verification.

The current contract with the ESC required 80% placement in employment for 159 adult and dislocated workers. To date, 83% of the 159 participants have been placed in employment. .

FAITH-BASED AND COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION GRANT APPLICATION

On May 6, 2004 the DWDB submitted an application for a Faith-based and Community organization (FBCO) federal grant. The purpose of this grant is to form long-term partnerships with various FBCO's to promote employment and training services in hard-to-serve areas. The focus of this grant will be Northeast Central Durham. The DWDB was able to get support from various FBCO's, including C.A.N., Urban Ministries of Durham, and the National Jobs Partnership. In addition, support from various area employers was also garnered, including Duke University and Northgate Associates. The government plans to make award announcements on June 30, 2004.

DURHAM JOBLINK OPENS FIRST EMPLOYER RESOURCE LIBRARY IN THE AREA

The Durham JobLink opened the door to the first JobLink Employer Resource Library on May 10th. This was an effort to assist local area employers with not only a dedicated location for recruitment of employees but a resource for

employer information (i.e. Department of Labor rules and regulations, NC workplace laws, NC employer tax guides, EEO literature).

Durham Workforce Development Board Staff were pleased that the NC Commission on Workforce Development and other JobLink's in the state requested information and guidance on establishing an employer resource library, as the Durham JobLink site will be used as a model for other agencies.

Please look for postings and join us for our official grand opening in the near future!



(Employer Resource Room JobLink/ESC 1105 South Briggs Ave)

CUSTOMER SERVICE TRAINING AT THE NEW NORTHGATE TRAINING CENTER

One of the JobLink re-chartering criteria requirements is that all JobLink staff receive customer service training on an annual basis. We are pleased to have Durham Technical Community College facilitating this training at the new Northgate Training Center located at Northgate Mall. Training is scheduled for May 19th and 20th and will include approximately thirty JobLink staff members. The partnership and participation of JobLink Staff, Northgate Training Center

and Durham Technical Community College is just one example of “behind the curtain” at the JobLink.

DURHAM JOBLINK WELCOMES NEW EMPLOYERS

The Workforce Development Board tasked the JobLink with building relationships with local area employers. While new and expanding employers are high on the priority list, the Workforce Development Board Staff thought it was important to also target existing businesses in the area. We are proud to present to you, two of our latest EMPLOYER participants:

.....The DWDB Staff contacted Holcim, Ltd in Dundee, Michigan expressing the JobLink’s mission and requested their participation as a local employer. Please meet Larry Watts of Holcim, Ltd. located at 308 South Plum.



(Holcim Ltd. 308 South Plum Street)

Holcim is one of the world’s leading suppliers of cement and aggregates. The distribution terminal in Durham, supplies most of the local cement companies in the Triangle. While they only have a staff of four (4) in Durham, they have committed to using the JobLink as a resource center and even greater being a support member of the Workforce Development Board.

Mr. Watts said “he felt he would benefit the City of Durham through insight into the development of the people who live in the area and the businesses which are located here. There remain opportunities for individuals to become gainfully employed and for companies to hire persons who will give them the work ethic they need to maintain a prosperous business in the Durham area.”

ALSO WE WOULD LIKE TO INTRODUCE YOU TO:

Ms. Patricia Carter of Loving Hands Senior Care.



(Above: Ms. Patricia Carter, Loving Hands Senior Care)

Loving Hands Senior Care is owned and operated by Ms. Carter. This NEW small business is a non-medical home care provider that gives in-home care to seniors in the Triangle who need “extra” assistance in everyday activities.

Ms. Carter was introduced to the JobLink:

- ...and immediately used our NEW Employer Resource Library for Small Business Info

- ...was introduced to WIA specialist for program information
- and finally, used our satellite site at W.D. Hill to accept job applications which resulted in a large turnout!

THE DURHAM JOBLINK WELCOMES
HOLCIM, LTD AND LOVING HANDS
SENIOR CARE!

MAYOR'S YOUTH WORKS SUMMER PROGRAM

The Mayor's Youth Works Summer program is well on its way to becoming a success for the third year. Once again the Office of Economic and Employment Development (OEED), Solid Waste Impact Team, Durham Parks and Recreation, and Durham Chamber are partnering together to employ over 300 youth. The OEED will work with its youth contractors in an effort to place 50 WIA clients in summer jobs, as well as placing an additional 50 non-WIA students.

To date, students have finished interviewing and are awaiting notification of selection for employment. Students will be notified by the first week of June as to whether they are selected and will attend orientation session where they will receive their job site location.

Generally, students are placed in non-profit agencies throughout Durham County, which are on the bus line. Some of the organizations involved in employing students are North Carolina Central University, John Avery Boys & Girls Club, City of Durham, Durham County Library, Carolina Theater, Durham Public Schools, and Durham CO-OP. The program will start June 14, 2004 and end July 23, 2004. Students will be working a maximum of 30 hours per week for \$6.00 an hour. Some students will also be required to attend a basic skills class one day a week instead of work in an effort to improve their math and reading skills.

We would like to extend a special thank you to NCCU for providing the classroom space at no cost.

Once again we look forward to having a great summer program.

DURHAM CAREERS IN HOSPITALITY

Nearly 300 DCIH students, teachers, civic officials, and business leaders gathered at Northern High School on May 11 to celebrate the program's second successful year in Durham Public Schools.

DCIH students organized and hosted the 2nd Annual Awards and Recognition Reception, which served as a real-life, hands-on hospitality project requiring 12 months of planning and preparation.

DCIH students at Carrington Middle chose the reception's theme and arranged for decorations. Students at Eno Valley Elementary and Northern High School produced original artwork for the reception's invitations and programs.



DCIH culinary arts students from Northern then prepared a five-course banquet for the May 11 event, featuring selections from

African, Asian, French, Italian, and Mexican cuisines.

Durham Careers in Hospitality is a workforce partnership between the Durham CVB and Durham Public Schools that helps students explore and experience visitor-related career opportunities. One-third of all students in Durham Public Schools express an interest in hospitality sector careers.

YOUTH RFP PROCESS NEARS COMPLETION

The WIA Youth service provider selection process is nearly complete. The selection process began on March 5, 2004, when an RFP was advertised to the public. Five proposals, from various local and out-of-state agencies, were submitted by the deadline date of April 16th. A review committee made up of Durham Workforce Development Board staff, City employees, and Youth Council members reviewed and scored the proposals. Three agencies were selected to receive contracts and the process is currently in the contract negotiation stage. The new contract year is expected to begin July 1, 2004.

ADULT AND DISLOCATED WORKER RFP PROCESS

The Adult and Dislocated Worker RFP was released on April 5, 2004. A bidder's conference was held on April 12th and proposals were due May 7, 2004. A committee made up of Durham Workforce Development Board members, staff, and City employees will review the proposals. A decision is expected to be made around mid-May. The new contract year is expected to begin July 1, 2004.

DETAILED PROGRAM INFORMATION

Department of Social Services (Journey to Success)

The Department of Social Services is providing services to:

- 93 adult workers,
- 104 displaced workers

New enrollment (March-April):

- 11 adult workers
- 14 displaced workers

Department of Social Services

Under a separate contract, the Department of Social Services is also providing services to:

- 43 younger youth (14-18)
- 35 older youth (19-21)

New enrollment

- 24 younger youth (14-18)
- 5 older youth (19-21)

Employment Security Commission

The Employment Security Commission is providing continuing services to:

- 106 adult workers
- 197 displaced workers

Durham Public Schools

Durham Public Schools is providing services to:

- 197 younger youth (14-18)
- 8 older youth (19-21)

New Enrollment

- 18 younger youth (14-18)
- 1 older youth (19-21)

Center for Employment Training

The Center for Employment Training is providing services to:

- 12 younger youth (14-18)
- 8 older youth (19-21)

New Enrollment (March/April)

- 6 younger youth (14-18)
- 4 older youth (19-21)

Incumbent Worker Program Update

Services are being provided to 93 adults in the Incumbent Worker grant programs. A total of \$109,470 was awarded to three local businesses (Clinical Trials Services, Consumer Credit Counseling, and Embrex, Inc.) to provide

educational and skills training for current employees.

Training

Of the 873 participants enrolled in WIA, 574 are currently enrolled in training. This includes:

- 453 adult/dislocated workers
- 93 incumbent workers
- 17 older youth (19-21)
- 11 younger youth (14-18)

Upcoming events

MAY MEETINGS

- **Durham Workforce Development Board**
Wednesday May 19, 2004 at 3:30 P.M.
Northgate Mall

JUNE MEETINGS

- **Executive Committee**
Wednesday June 2, 2004 at 8:30 A.M.
JobLink/ESC
- **JobLink Committee**
Thursday June 3, 2004 at 9:00 A.M.
JobLink/ESC

- **Careers in Hospitality**
Wednesday June 9, 2004 at 10:00 A.M.
Durham Convention & Visitors Bureau
- **Priority II Committee**
Thursday June 10, 2004 at 4:00 P.M.
CCB
- **Youth Council**
Tuesday June 15, 2004 at 9:15 A.M.
Durham Marriott at the Civic Center
- **Workforce Partners**
Thursday June 17, 2004 at 2:00 P.M.
TBA

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